



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/524,629	02/16/2005	Kiyoto Yui	P26117	1454
7055 7590 04/08/2008 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE RESTON, VA 20191				
EXAMINER GYORFI, THOMAS A				
ART UNIT 2135		PAPER NUMBER		
NOTIFICATION DATE 04/08/2008		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

gbpatent@gbpatent.com
pto@gbpatent.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/524,629

Applicant(s)

YUI, KIYOTO

Examiner

Thomas Gyorfi

Art Unit

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 February 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-946)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SE-US)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7/20/05
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-12 are pending examination.

Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 7/20/05 has been considered by the Examiner.

Specification

4. The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

Arrangement of the Specification

As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

- (a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION.
- (b) CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.
- (c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT.
- (d) THE NAMES OF THE PARTIES TO A JOINT RESEARCH AGREEMENT.
- (e) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC.
- (f) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.
 - (1) Field of the Invention.
 - (2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
- (g) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.
- (h) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).
- (i) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.
- (j) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (k) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).

- (I) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A "Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).

Examiner respectfully suggests that Applicant amend the specification in order to better comply with the guidelines herein. In particular, the specification is objected to as section (h) appears at the end of the specification, after the detailed description had already made frequent reference to the drawings illustrating the invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) based upon a public use or sale of the invention.

Any computer system comprising a disk drive capable of operating a standard 3.5" floppy diskette implemented all the limitations of the claims, as evidenced by the Computer Hardware web page (hereinafter, "ComputerHope"), with supplemental reference to "Windows 2000 Permissions" as necessary.

Regarding claim 1:

ComputerHope discloses a write control method, being a write control method for controlling writing of file into storage means by making use of file management system by an operation system as basic software of computer system, by control means for executing various control processes in a computer system, comprising: wherein write control means changes over permission or rejection of writing into the storage means on the basis of changeover input by a user (the write protect switch, page 3;

see also the file system permissions inherent to operating systems such as Windows 2000 as disclosed on page 6), and transmits to the storage means by way of the write control means when transmitting a write command to storage means in the file management system (a write command will not succeed if the switch is in the write protected state: pages 3 & 6, *Ibid*).

Regarding claim 6:

ComputerHope discloses a computer system comprising: control means for executing various control processes (an operating system, see page 6); storing means for storing a file (the 3.5" floppy disk itself); the control means executing writing of file into the storing means by making use of file management system by an operation system as basic software (this being standard functionality inherent to any operating system, including those explicitly disclosed above), write control means for controlling changeover of write permission or rejection into memory means on the basis of changeover input by a user (the write protect switch, page 3; see also the file system permissions inherent to operating systems such as Windows 2000 as disclosed on page 6), wherein the file management system is set to transmit to the storing means by way of the write control means when transmitting to the storing means (a write command will not succeed if the switch is in the write protected state: *Ibid*).

Regarding claims 2 and 7:

ComputerHope further discloses wherein the write control means is provided with a switch, and permission or rejection of writing can be physically changed over by this switch (*Ibid*).

Regarding claims 3 and 8:

ComputerHope further discloses wherein when permitting writing by the write control means, the write command is passed; and when rejecting writing, the write command is blocked (*Ibid*; see also page 6, "Write Protect Error").

Regarding claims 4 and 9:

ComputerHope further discloses wherein the write control means rejects writing when the user has changed over to reject writing by input of changeover and the file of write command is a file of a write rejected type, and permits writing otherwise (ComputerHope, Ibid; note that operating systems such as the explicitly disclosed Windows 2000 on page 6 inherently comprise file permissions that can forbid a user from writing to a file irrespective of whether a floppy disk write protection is set, as disclosed in the "Windows 2000 Permissions" reference).

Regarding claims 5 and 10:

ComputerHope further discloses wherein the write control means rejects writing when the user has changed over to reject writing by input of changeover and the folder holding the file according to the write command has been set in write rejection, and permits writing otherwise (ComputerHope, Ibid; note that operating systems such as the explicitly disclosed Windows 2000 on page 6 inherently comprise file permissions that can forbid a user from writing to a folder irrespective of whether a floppy disk write protection is set, as disclosed in the "Windows 2000 Permissions" reference).

Regarding claim 11:

ComputerHope further discloses a write control program for executing the write control method of claim 1 (the Windows Explorer and/or Cacs command line utility components inherent to Windows 2000: "Windows 2000 Permissions", page 1; cf. ComputerHope, page 6).

Regarding claim 12:

ComputerHope further discloses an operating system incorporating the write control program of claim 11 (Windows 2000: see ComputerHope, page 6).

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- "The Original Macintosh" reference illustrates that the claimed invention was commercially available since at least January 24, 1984 (pages 2 & 7).
- "USB 2.0 Hi-speed Flash drive roundup (2004)" from Ars Technica, illustrates that the write protection switch is also an obvious improvement for more modern computer storage media and devices (see page 3, "Write protect switch")

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas Gyorfi whose telephone number is (571)272-3849. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am - 5:00pm Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TAG

3/22/08

/KIMYEN VU/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2135